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INFORMATION REPORT

COUNTRY Bulgaria

DATE DISTR. 15 September 1948

SUBJECT Anti-Communist Activities in Bulgaria

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1. At the beginning of May 1948 anti-Communists murdered the Communist Party Secretary of the Sveti Vrach region and fled to the Pirin Mountains, where they formed a 20-member band. In mid-May this band clashed with a large force of the Militia. The anti-Communists fought till their last man fell; the losses of the Militia amounted to 40 dead.
 2. In the Pirin Mountains there was a band of nationalist guerrillas under the leadership of Lieut. Colonel Rizov, with a strength of about 600 men. At the beginning of May 1948 a large force of Militia made a drive against this band and dispersed it. A part of the band fled to Rodopi, where there are other similar guerrilla bands.
 3. On 5 May 1948, in Siva-Reka, there was a clash between a band of anti-Communists and the Militia. The anti-Communists lost seven or eight men and were dispersed. Some of them fled into Greece, where they surrendered to the Greek authorities. During the fighting eleven men of the Militia were wounded.
 4. At the end of June 1948, between Ruse and Gorna Orhovitsa, the railroad bridge was destroyed and communications were interrupted for several days. The official announcement was that the bridge was destroyed by a flood, but there was a persistent rumor that it had been destroyed by sabotage by the guerrillas.

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